

Mitchell-Roundtree House,
Platteville, Wisconsin.

Grant Co.

HABS No. 28-4.

HABS
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Photographs
Written Historical and Descriptive Data.
District No. 28.

Historic American Buildings Survey.
Alexander C. Guth, District Officer.
1249 N. Franklin Place, Milwaukee, Wis.

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MITCHELL-ROUNDTREE HOUSE
Platteville, Grant County
Wisconsin

Owner: Not given.

Date of Erection: 1837.

Architect and Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: one and a half.

Materials of Construction: Stone.

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

MITCHELL-ROUNDTREE HOUSE

The Mitchell-Roundtree House located in the city of Platteville, Wisconsin, was built in 1837 for the Rev. Samuel Mitchell. He was born in the state of Virginia, and served in the Revolutionary War under General Morgan. In 1804 he was married to Eleanor Thomas. Rev. Mitchell moved west after that and eventually settled in Galena, Illinois, at which place he became acquainted with Major John Hawkins Roundtree who married his daughter, Mary Grace Mitchell, in 1828.

This Major Roundtree superintended the building of the house for Rev. Mitchell who had moved to Platteville in 1837. Rev. Mitchell lived there until his wife's death in 1842. He died in 1855 in Missouri and his remains were brought to Platteville where he lies buried.

The old house was eventually bought by Major Roundtree and was occupied by his son, H. S. Roundtree's daughter, Miss Laura Roundtree. General Grant visited here on various occasions. The major portion of the house still remains as it was originally, very few alterations having been made.

The house has some most unusual features. Amongst them are that each room contains a real fire place. There is no kitchen. This was located some fifty feet away from the house in a separate building. The Dining Room wing and the

Kitchen were connected with a covered walk. Negro servants carried the food back and forth from the isolated kitchen to the house. The food was brought up to the opening (with a slide) in the wall of Dining Room. Here willing hands grabbed the food containers and served the master's family and guests.

This is one of the most charming houses found in the entire survey. It is refined in detail, good in mass and very quaint.

Alexander Smith
District Officer.

Revised 1936, H.C.F.